

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

VOL. III.

MONTREAL AND NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1884.

No. 9.

## TO OUR FRIENDS.

The testing time of renewals or stoppages of subscriptions for the past year is about over, and it leaves the *Weekly Messenger* with a larger circulation. Although only two months of our third year have passed, we have the promising number of 7,400 subscribers on our books, and to provide samples we print this week between eight and nine thousand copies. We know of no reason, however, why the above number could not be doubled or even trebled this year. All that is required is the appreciative efforts of our friends. They are not asked to work for nothing, either, as a handsome picture awaits every subscriber who sends in a new subscription, and one for the recruit as well. At the exceedingly low price of fifty cents, and club price of two dollars for five, for such a full and attractive newspaper, we feel we have a powerful claim upon public patronage. Address all letters and orders to JOHN DUGGALL & SON, Montreal, Canada.

## THE TIME FOR ACTION.

To have good laws a free people must show a desire for them. Especially is this in regard to such a question as the temperance reform. Upon this question the politicians for the time ruling are well aware of the strong interests that will be thrown against them if they do anything to hurt the liquor traffic. It is for all who consider that traffic only and continually an evil to show the framers of the laws what support they may expect from the people in legislating against it. Hitherto the people of Canada have enjoyed for such a purpose, in common with other free countries, the privileges of a free press, the right of assembly and organization and that of petition. By means of these agencies substantial progress has been made both in Provincial and Federal legislation. The restriction or suppression of the liquor traffic has been no more than an incidental issue in political elections, except in very isolated cases, yet the question may, oftener than it is possible to say with certainty, have been the means of making or marring the fortunes of aspirants to legislative honors. The impossibility, in the present stage of Canadian progress, of making temperance reform the main issue in any grand struggle of parties for the reins of power, is sufficient reason for the necessity of the local option measure that has been on the statute books of the Dominion for six years. By means of that measure—the Canada Temperance Act—it is possible to have the electorate of almost every constituency in Canada divided upon the question of whether or not the pernicious traffic shall continue to have legal sanction. This can be done, too, without any elector having to compromise his views or position upon any of the other great national questions of the day, such as tariffs, railways, colonization, etc. Many counties, including a majority of those in Nova Scotia, have been under the operation of the Act for periods of several years and less, but most of the time since the early adoptions of the

Act has been wasted through legal and constitutional uncertainties worked up by the opponents of the measure. These obstacles have one after another been cleared away, the supporters of the Act defending it right up to the foot of the throne. Then there were, and in some cases still are, drawbacks encountered in the shape of local disputes as to whom the responsibility rightly belonged of having the law enforced. Notwithstanding all that it has had to contend with, however, the Act has largely reduced the consumption of liquor in nearly if not every district where it was voted into effect. It seems also to have had the important effects of making keen the public eye and quickening the public conscience to the evils of the business, for far more illegal selling and drunkenness under license restrictions did not produce half the amount of outcry against having a law that was not enforced. Although this outcry was raised, as a rule, by opponents of the measure, it has had a contrary effect to what was intended. Instead of producing a popular demand for the repeal of the Act, it has led to the friends of law and order in very many cases waking up to the reproach of allowing the law-despising liquor-sellers to triumph, and assembling in mass meetings to devise means for enforcing the Act. It is very gratifying to notice, in this connection, a change in the tone of the press toward the new law. Newspapers that were neutral or opposed to it when it was before the electors, and which had nothing but sneers and unfavorable criticisms for it after its adoption, having found they were against the popular current, now vie with each other in supporting the Act and making suggestions for its better working. In one town two daily papers on opposite sides of politics are now reproaching one another with instances of their former coolness or opposition to the measure. When the Act has given such evidences of success in the scattered constituencies that have adopted it, it is reasonable to suppose that it would be more effective over wider areas. This consideration, supplementing the desirability of having the whole Dominion placed under the sway of the tentative prohibition the Act provides, should stimulate the upholders of sobriety, order and prosperity to enter upon the campaign now inaugurated with determination and zeal that will not be relaxed until victory all along the line shall be achieved. Valuable information for temperance workers, in connection with the campaign, will be found in the "Annual Announcement" of the Dominion Alliance elsewhere in this paper.

DOCTORS HAVE BEFORE NOW given the explanation of bodies moving in their coffins which a prominent doctor of Oakland, California, is credited with. That is, that the phenomenon, that has caused much distress to those led by its occurrence to suppose their friends were buried alive, is caused by the generation of gases. This doctor says a body has been known to rise partly up, the head and shoulders bending up toward the middle of the body, from the cause mentioned.

## THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

Sixty Irish members of Parliament, of all parties, have presented a memorial to Mr. Gladstone, asking that the purchase clause of the Land Act be amended so as to authorize the Government to advance the whole purchase money to the tenants and extend the period for the repayment of the money. The Earl of Dunraven in the House of Lords moved a resolution censuring the Irish Executive for removing Lord Rossmore from the office of Justice of the Peace. Baron Carlingford, Lord of the Privy Seal, warned the House that a vote of censure would have a grave effect on Ireland. It was announced in the House of Commons that England, France and other Powers were urging Chili and Peru to protect the rights of the foreign creditors. The Duke of Richmond moved an amendment to the cattle disease law in the House of Lords, which passed, prohibiting the importation of cattle from countries having foot and mouth disease. The Government is expected to oppose the amendment in the House of Commons. In the discussion of Mr. Parnell's amendment to the address, Mr. John O'Connor Power, an Irish member, severely criticised the course of Mr. Parnell and his followers. He condemned Mr. Parnell's motion as disappointing in that it did not condemn assisted emigration as emphatically as it ought, and did not mention the importance of the development of the resources of Ireland. Mr. Parnell had at length been compelled to adopt the speaker's declaration that intimidation was brutal and immoral. He did not blame Mr. Parnell wholly for his mistaken policy, as he was convinced the Nationalist leader inwardly dissented from many things done by his disciples both inside and outside of the House. The Parnellites had been pursuing a policy adverse to Ireland's interests ever since the introduction of the Land Act. Landlords had to blame their present position upon their own neglect of duties. Irish discontent was due to the denial of equal privileges as well as to historical events. Better times were, however, the speaker believed, coming, when strife would be at an end and England and Ireland would be more united than ever, with the latter enjoying equal privileges. Mr. Power was frequently interrupted with applause and sat down amid tremendous cheering. Mr. T. M. Healy, in reply, compared Mr. Power's speech to dancing on a tight rope, said Mr. Power was balancing between the Whigs and the Orangemen, and reproached him for deserting his party. He said the Government was in league with the Orangemen, and concluded with describing Lord Rossmore as a "bigoted, malevolent, young pup." Mr. Justin McCarthy, historian of "Our Own Times," accused the Orangemen of seeking to involve the country in civil war. The amendment was defeated, after some days' discussion, during which several Irish members denounced Mr. Parnell, by a vote of 81 to 30. This was the last division on the address, and when it was over the Speaker, Mr. Brand, addressed the House, tendering his resignation on the ground of ill health. He appeared deeply moved and was heartily cheered. Mr. Gladstone gave

notice of a resolution thanking Mr. Brand for his services and advising the Queen to confer a special mark of favor upon him. Irish Nationalists decline to take part in this act of usual and due respect, because Mr. Brand suspended the Irish members under the special rules of the House in 1881. After a stormy discussion a motion of Sir Stafford Northcote was passed, reaffirming the decision of the House in its exclusion of Mr. Bradlaugh. That gentleman has decided to take no further action until the courts pass upon his case, and if their judgment be against him he will abandon the struggle. In the House of Lords the Prince of Wales spoke upon a motion to appoint a commission on housing the poor. His speech was well prepared and delivered, and all the more interesting from the fact being known that lately the Prince had been making personal investigations into the condition of the poor of the city of London.

IT IS WITH DEEP REGRET that we have to record the sudden death of one of the leading temperance men of Canada. Mr. Avard Longley, who died at his residence, Paradise, Nova Scotia, on his 61st birthday, February 22nd, was for nearly thirty years an active Son of Temperance. He was one of the Vice-Presidents of the Dominion Alliance from its organization until his death, and from his youth he was a devoted member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Longley entered public life as a member of the Nova Scotia Legislature in 1859, sitting for Annapolis county as the colleague of the late Hon. J. W. Johnston, one of the ablest public men ever produced by that Province. For a time he was Chief Commissioner of Railways in the Government. He represented his county in the Dominion Parliament for the term beginning in 1878, but for private reasons did not offer at the last general election. The deceased was also one of the founders of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, organized twenty years ago, and continued to the close one of its most useful members. Shortly before he died, Mr. Longley had an operation performed in Boston to prevent threatened blindness, and he was considered by his friends to have largely recovered his sometime waning health when, on the date mentioned, an hour or two after having eaten his breakfast with his family, he fell down and died.

HIGH LICENSE FEES having been adopted in Chicago, small dealers say that whiskey is malt liquor and they will sell it under a beer license. Whiskey sellers who could not swear that their wares were oatmeal gruel, or anything else that would enable them to evade legal restrictions, would be curiosities.

CHOLERA GERMS have been detected in a water tank in Calcutta, India, by the German Sanitary Commission, and in suburban villages where cholera had appeared were found microscopic organisms identical with those found in the lower intestines of cholera victims in Egypt.

**THE KETTLE'S SONG.**

BY EDWARD CARSWELL.

The kettle sang a merry song,  
 And timed it with its lid,  
 'Men say that liquor makes them strong;  
 'It never, never did."  
 "The steamer ploughs the ocean wide;  
 'What moves the wheel and beam?  
 'She steams against the wind and tide,  
 'And water makes the steam."  
 "You see the locomotive draw  
 'The crowded train of cars,  
 'With heated water, nothing more,  
 'To pull them o'er the bars."  
 "The mill, the engine, boat and man,  
 'And heat, (except the sot)  
 'Derive their strength and motive power  
 'From water, cold or hot."  
 "Then if you would be well and strong,  
 'Drink only from the stream,  
 'And work for right with prayer and song,  
 'And 'use a little steam."  
 —From "Stories and Sketches."

**QUINCE, AND HOW THE LORD LED HIM.**

(By Miss L. Bates.)

**CHAPTER XIX.**

**MRS. SEAGO'S MOTHERLY TALK.**

Mrs. Seago was still pale from her recent illness, but her manner was so simple and so cordial that Quince felt quite at home with her. With charming grace she made him take a seat at her side and told her of his vacation and how he had spent it, tears coming into her eyes as he described the week at Mr. Jethro's and the torture he had endured during the subsequent days while seeking for work; then his stay with Mr. Chase and his family; and at last calling her attention to the clothes that had once belonged to Robert.

"I remember Robert Chase," she said. "We are in the habit of receiving one evening in the week, the boys like it, and it gives us a good influence over them. Robert was one of my assistants in receiving. He was cheerful and polite, and was happy in his suggestions as to what amusements would please. I am glad to know that God directed you there," said Mrs. Seago.

Quince had felt grateful, but he had not before realized with such force that it was God who had directed him to the small farm.

"How was it that God directed me?" he asked. "At the time it seemed to me that I quite stumbled upon the place."  
 "You were asking for work, were you not?" pausing for assent. "You had been asking day after day, had you not? You were in earnest?"  
 "Yes."  
 "Do you remember reading in your Bible, 'Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass?'"  
 "Yes; I have read it."  
 "And again, 'I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye?'"  
 "This time there was only a slight bow. The lad was beginning to feel the reality of asking; it was not a mere duty. He had asked and God had answered. He had been led; it was God's leading.

A moment later his face was clouded. It was not for him to appropriate all this; he stood beyond the limit of such a promise. True, the Bible said all this, but it likewise said as plainly, "Unto the third and fourth generation."

Quince's countenance betrayed the perplexity he felt.  
 "What is it that troubles you, my boy? Tell me as you would tell your mother."  
 "The look of kindly interest urged him on to say,  
 "That promise is to those who have a right to lean upon God and to receive favors from his hand."  
 "Every one has a right, and an equal right, to this promise, Quince. God is no respecter of persons; he listens to whoever calls upon his name in sincerity, whoever desires his favor."  
 "Yes, but there must be a class upon whom he cannot look with favor."  
 "The impenitent, you mean?"

"Not alone through one's own sin, but the sin of another," a deep flush mantling his face as he spoke.

Mrs. Seago did not at once comprehend the difficulty, and, as the lad paused, she continued:  
 "Think of the words, 'The great love wherewith he loved us.' Can love willingly work anything but love to its object? 'All things are for your sakes,' the Bible tells us. All that which light reveals by day, and even the stars at night,—your Father made them all, and all for your sakes. Look, again, to the surroundings of our own lives, things great and small affecting our daily interest. 'But the very hairs of your head are all numbered,' was said simply to convey the idea that God cares for our most trifling interests; that in his love he did not forget us. He puts thoughts of good into our hearts; he makes friends for us, and he gives us such work as we can do. I have learned much of this since I was ill. God is very tender with us; even as a Father he pitieeth us; and he can help us; and he will help us, if we ask him."

Gertrude had not been in the room; she now entered, carrying a herbarium in one hand and a large doll in the other.

"Papa bought the herbarium, and here are the blue violets you gave me," she said to Quince.

"And they still retain their freshness: how is this?" was asked.

"My teacher taught me to do it. It required a good deal of patience, and the next I shall be able to do better," was the answer.

"And my doll, Quince; it's broken somewhere. Can you find where? It used to open and shut its eyes, and I want it to do so now; for I want to give it away to a little girl, and she is sick."

Quince was holding the doll when Mr. Seago entered the room. A smile broke over his lips as he joined the group, and, patting out his hand, he relieved Quince of his charge.

"I believe I made a promise with regard to this young lady. She has really lost her voice, and you are miserable over it; is that it?" he said to Gertry.

"I was anxious on Daisy's account; she's sick, you know. But, now Quince is here, we'll excuse you, papa," returned Gertry as she perched herself on the arm of her father's chair.

Then the talk drifted away into deeper channels; phases of human life were discussed, and landscape sketches stood out before them. Mr. Seago discovered that two months' experience had made a visible difference with Quince; he had deeper insight into the motives that actuated certain lines of conduct, and he drew his conclusions with a clearer judgment. Meeting with rebuffs had not hardened him, neither had kindness robbed him of one iota of the resolution needed for one who realizes that if he succeeds at all it must be through his own individual efforts.

"You can take your old place as janitor," was said to Quince. "Gerty and her mother may have a few errands for you, and I shall give you a class now and then; but I want you here chiefly to aid you a little in your studies, your recitations."

Mr. Seago did not say that he had received a letter from Mr. Chase, and likewise one from Mr. Hibell. Both gentlemen expressed themselves as greatly interested in Quince, and anxious to have him advance in his studies. Possibly, but for these letters, he would not have taken the lad into his house; but, knowing as he did that books were not alone sufficient to form character, he determined to throw around his pupil such influences as would have a tendency to develop the higher nature, so that the moral would keep pace with the intellectual life, and thus develop a perfect manhood.

A moment later Mr. Seago was called from the room, and when he returned his face was no longer glowing.

"You remember Belden?" he said to his wife.

"Yes; I have a distinct remembrance of him," the lines about her lips growing suddenly firmer.

"I have just seen his uncle; the boy is not to return. It seems that the habit is growing upon the lad; Mr. Havergal called in an inherited appetite. Frank Belden's father was a hopeless drunkard."

Quince started as though struck, and his face was of ashen pallor. Again the words stood before him, written in living flame:  
 "Visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon

the children unto the third and fourth generation."

He knew that Frank Belden, handsome and spirited as he was, was given up to perniculous dissipation. An inherited appetite! Then was he to blame, if he did not at all times control it? If God was a God of love, would he not look with pity upon one who was cursed from his birth, and would he not heal him of his infirmity?

Quince's evident agitation did not escape Mrs. Seago, but she made no comment on it; and after a few pleasant remarks touching other things a hymn was sung and Mr. Seago bowed in prayer. The words were simple and frank—the asking of a child who, thankful for the day, was anxious for the Father's blessing before he slept.

Going to his room, however, it was impossible for Quince to sleep. Frank Belden had an intemperate father, and Frank Belden himself was following in the steps of that father. Dropping his face into his clasped hands, tears came. His father, like Frank's, had been a hard drinker, but, thanks to his mother's teaching perhaps, the appetite in his case had no controlling force. Possibly he had not this inherited appetite. Was there danger? Would circumstances develop it? He could not tell to others; but, as he reviewed the checkered course of his own past life, it did appear that God had shown a measure of love in choosing for him.

Then, raising his head, the lad surveyed his room; it was comfortable, even pleasant. There were his trunk and his clothes and his twenty-six dollars; it was so much better than he expected when school broke up and he went away. And Mr. Chase had said to him, in so many words, that the farm must be his home whenever he had a vacation.

Then the picture of Frank Belden came up. Perhaps Frank's mother was not wise to counsel her boy, or perhaps she did not live to counsel him. In that moment he felt that he must see Frank. They had been friends, and he would tell Frank his own story. But no; he had not this appetite for strong drink; he did not know the fascination, the terrible charm, that drew him on.

With his hands tightly clasped behind his back, the lad battled with himself. At one time he felt strong to resist, fixed and determined, and the next moment broken down and weeping. At length, physically unable to come to any satisfactory conclusion, he sought his bed, and for a season found forgetfulness in sleep.

**CHAPTER XX.**

**INTIMACY OF QUINCE AND FRANK BELDEN.**

Frank Belden did not return; and the more Quince thought of him the more anxious he felt to see and talk with him. He wished to tell him that he must resolve to put down this appetite; he could, and God would help him to do it.

Strange as it may seem, Quince was quick to feel that God would help another. He knew from the experience of others that God had done it, and he believed he would do it again. This reaching out for God to help a fallen brother was the natural impulse of a generous heart. He could suffer, and he could endure; but it grieved him to think that another soul must be crushed under the ban of exclusion.

One evening, in speaking with Mr. Seago, Quince ventured to express himself as anxious to see Frank. While he was not conscious of possessing the appetite for strong drink, he knew something about it; and he felt certain that Frank could be saved, if properly dealt with. True, Frank's father had been intemperate, but that was no reason why Frank also should be. On the contrary, the very consciousness that his father had been overcome by strong drink was sufficient reason for him persistently to avoid it.

"His uncle, Mr. Havergal, writes me that Frank has promised to come back and attend to his studies if I will permit him to come," answered Mr. Seago. "I received the letter yesterday, but I have not replied to it, for I did not know what to say. A lad given to such a habit is a dangerous companion for the majority of schoolboys."

"I always considered Frank an honorable lad; if he has made a promise to the effect that he will study, I am sure he will keep it," returned Quince.

This earnest expression of interest on the part of Quince awoke a corresponding feeling in Mr. Seago's heart. He did not answer immediately, and when he did speak his words fell slowly, as if he weighed well their import:  
 "I have my fears; yet I dislike to refuse him. He is young, and it may be the turning-point in his life. If you are willing to counsel him, Quince; if you will attach yourself to him in a way to do him good and still not harm yourself,—I think I will venture to say to him, 'Come.'  
 "I do want him to come, Mr. Seago, and I will do all I can to keep him from going astray," Quince answered, his voice betraying deep feeling.  
 "I cannot help considering it a dangerous experiment; still, I dare not refuse. And, Quince, in this matter I am letting you take a weight of responsibility that it is possible you ought not to be burdened with. If anything ill comes of it, I shall reproach myself very severely."  
 "I can only thank you," replied Quince; "I cannot begin to tell you how glad I am."  
 Before a week had passed Frank Belden was again in Mr. Seago's school, and the old pupils were surprised to note the friendly intimacy between the handsome lad, who was always supplied with plenty of spending-money, and the janitor, Quince Brockton.  
 "He'll do differently, if he keeps in there," said one.  
 "Old Brinley will be apt to lose a good customer," cried out another.  
 "There's a new screw somewhere," and the laugh went around.  
 "Too jolly for anything!" sounded along the hall as Frank Belden waited for Quince to ring the bell, so that they could walk home together.  
 "It's easy to understand though—one with plenty of tin, at the other without a stiver," making a significant gesture in the direction of the bell.  
 "A new screw! Ha, ha! Belden never stumbled in his translation this morning. Something's up."  
 Thus the lads criticised as they crossed the campus. There were many such speeches, and they were fung around loosely; but they did not in any manner affect the intimacy of the two most interested.

Possibly, with all his willingness, Quince would have been powerless to bring about such a state of things but for an accident that had occurred a few days subsequent to Frank's return. The former had been to the post-office, and was returning when he encountered Frank on his way down the street. It was during the study-hours of the regular students, and both lads were seemingly surprised.

"I promised Hatham; really, it was an inconvenient hour, but he had no other," stammered Frank, who felt that in keeping one promise he was really breaking another which he had made to Mr. Seago.  
 "Where were you to meet Hatham?" asked Quince in a friendly way.  
 "At Brinley's," coloring as he spoke.  
 Taking a step nearer, Quince continued:  
 "Do you desire to keep that promise, Frank? Dare you trust yourself with Hatham at Brinley's?"  
 "He begged me, and he brought up our old friendship; and I did not see any way out," was the response.  
 "Take my advice: turn short around and go home with me," at the same time slipping his hand through Frank's arm.  
 The latter made no resistance. The earnest conversation that followed, as the two sat in Quince's room at Mr. Seago's, was the beginning of the close intimacy that seemed to astonish the pupils. Frank did not hesitate to express himself freely to Quince in reference to his appetite for strong drink.  
 "I cannot help it," he would say, helplessly. "My father was addicted to drink, and so was his father. It is just as natural for me as it is to breathe."  
 "You were old enough to remember your father when he died, were you not?"  
 "Oh yes; I recollect it all very well."  
 "You saw the misery that this habit brought upon your father and upon his family?"  
 "Yes, indeed!" with emphasis.  
 "And because it is natural for you, as you say, you must keep on with it, although you know it will lead only to your ruin. Is this so, Frank?"  
 "Oh, Quince, you cannot know how I hate it. But I cannot help it; something draws me on. I resolve I will not; I walk my own road and fight it off night after night.

You cannot know," a look of indignation over his face.

"No, Frank, I know all that, and I know all that you are saying. I know all that you're starting yourself up for?" starting troubled.

"My father was continued; he dr himself. It kills a beggar. It was ing. Do you c'n touch a drop of, me of all and na despised by man; "I never knew "No; you ney poor. If I had h as you have, it is studied far into t after working ha should have done might have tried saying that the had come down t to it."

"Oh, Quince s'pr ing his face.

"Resolve to sp "Can I do it?"  
 "Yes, you can!"  
 "If I can, I w "There is no ' do it, God help with a reverence.  
 "Will God hel Notwithstanding of his own sad e the teaching of Frank; hence, w if God would h he hesitated, bu cially:  
 "Yes; God h "And will y you push me o have patience w "Certainly I hand and looki ness of purpose!"  
 "I have promt have broken m ably wretched o but I will try. you to your p know that you e that you have e the evils of in me."

Thus the com ed.

After this, I Quince's room, s next to Quince, gradually the la Seago's parlor, a talks they had t influences were boy, and, while nature were st and more and t

On one of th had left the pad to Mrs. Seago o tween him and t in thefulness of that seemed to a life of blessed "I am glad y Mrs. Seago, w "But why did y showing mercy love me and kee "My mother was intemperat have honored G endeavored to f have tried to f me was marked to perplex me: upon the childr Quince spoke that he was acc Mrs. Seago lo ing tenderness: "And all the God's willings Christ, reachin than the tender his hands pierce

You cannot know is," a look of indig over his face.

"No, Frank, I know all that, and I know all that you are saying. I know all that you're starting yourself up for?" starting troubled.

"My father was continued; he dr himself. It kills a beggar. It was ing. Do you c'n touch a drop of, me of all and na despised by man; "I never knew "No; you ney poor. If I had h as you have, it is studied far into t after working ha should have done might have tried saying that the had come down t to it."

"Oh, Quince s'pr ing his face.

"Resolve to sp "Can I do it?"  
 "Yes, you can!"  
 "If I can, I w "There is no ' do it, God help with a reverence.  
 "Will God hel Notwithstanding of his own sad e the teaching of Frank; hence, w if God would h he hesitated, bu cially:  
 "Yes; God h "And will y you push me o have patience w "Certainly I hand and looki ness of purpose!"  
 "I have promt have broken m ably wretched o but I will try. you to your p know that you e that you have e the evils of in me."

Thus the com ed.

After this, I Quince's room, s next to Quince, gradually the la Seago's parlor, a talks they had t influences were boy, and, while nature were st and more and t

On one of th had left the pad to Mrs. Seago o tween him and t in thefulness of that seemed to a life of blessed "I am glad y Mrs. Seago, w "But why did y showing mercy love me and kee "My mother was intemperat have honored G endeavored to f have tried to f me was marked to perplex me: upon the childr Quince spoke that he was acc Mrs. Seago lo ing tenderness: "And all the God's willings Christ, reachin than the tender his hands pierce



You cannot know what a terrible curse it is, a look of indescribable horror creeping over his face.

"No, Frank, I do not know, in the way and manner that you know; but, as to the curse, I know all about it."

"All about it? Oh, Quince, how can you?" starting up with a face flushed and troubled.

"My father went lower than yours, Frank, through strong drink."

"Is that so? And I thought you knew nothing about the misery of it?" cried Frank, unable to restrain himself.

"My father was once a rich man," Quince continued; he drank up his estate, he ruined himself. It killed my mother and left me a beggar. It was drink—my father's drinking. Do you consider, Frank, that I would touch a drop of the vile stuff that robbed me of all and made me a drunkard's boy, despised by man and cast off by God?"

"I never knew this, Quince."

"No; you never knew what made me so poor. If I had had as much money to spend as you have, it is possible I should not have studied far into the night, tired as I was after working hard all day; it is possible I should have done just as you did, and I might have tried also to excuse myself by saying that the appetite for strong drink had come down to me and I must give way to it."

"Oh, Quince spare me," cried Frank, covering his face.

"Resolve to spare yourself, Frank."

"Can I do it?"

"Yes, you can do it."

"If I can, I will, Quince."

"There is no 'if' in the case; you must do it, God helping you," came firmly and with a reverence that touched Frank.

"Will God help me?"

Notwithstanding his own haunting thought of his own sad condition, Quince followed the teaching of others when talking with Frank; hence, when the question was asked if God would help him—that is, Frank—he hesitated, but at length answered decidedly:

"Yes; God will help you, if you ask him."

"And will you help me, Quince? Will you push me on when I lag? Will you have patience with me, if I try?"

"Certainly I will," grasping him by the hand and looking into his face with a firmness of purpose that was inspiring.

"I have promised a great many times, and I have broken my promise and felt miserably wretched over it. I will not promise, but I will try. And, Quince, I shall hold you to your promise; it will help me to know that you care. And the knowledge that you have experienced in your own life the evils of intemperance will also help me."

Thus the compact was made and cemented.

After this, Frank was frequently in Quince's room, and Gerty often said that, next to Quince, she liked Frank. Thus gradually the latter was brought into Mrs. Seago's parlor, and many were the practical talks they had together. In every way new influences were brought to bear upon the boy, and, while his intellect and his moral nature were strengthened, his appetite was kept more and more in abeyance.

On one of these occasions, after Frank had left the parlor, Quince was led to speak to Mrs. Seago of the barrier that stood between him and the right to call upon God in the fulness of hope, repeating the passage that seemed to cut him off from all share in a life of blessedness hereafter.

"I am glad you have told me this," said Mrs. Seago, while her eyes grew misty. "But why did you not read further? And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments?"

"My mother loved God, but my father was intemperate. For my mother's sake I have honored God, and for her sake I have endeavored to love him. And recently I have tried to feel that his kindness toward me was marked; but all the time it rises up to perplex me: 'The iniquity of the fathers upon the children.'"

Quince spoke calmly; it was a question that he was accustomed to encounter.

Mrs. Seago looked into his face with pitying tenderness:

"And all these years you failed to see God's willingness, my boy—failed to see Christ reaching out after you with more than the tenderness of a mother, showing his hands pierced by the cruel nails and his

feet torn and bleeding, his loving heart still crying out through the ages, 'All this for thee, my child. Lovest thou me?'"

"But just this is what I do not understand," ventured Quince. "This is for one who is not from the first cut off from the hope of God's favor," an intense fervor running through his words.

Mrs. Seago felt that the best way was to explain the mistaken passage, and then it would be possible for the lad to realize the love of God and the necessity of faith—strong, ardent, genuine—in order to establish a real fellowship with Christ, and thus receive of his fulness, day by day growing in grace and in knowledge.

"Yes," she said, "the sins of the fathers are visited upon the children in deformed bodies, depraved appetites, weakened intellects, and deranged moral forces. All this is more or less the effect of a sinful course of life on the part of the parents, and, of course, transmitted to the children. The visitation is hereditary—not from arbitrary appointment, but the natural result of God's broken law. This is the condition under the law. Because of this condition Christ came to redeem and to save. The blood of Christ has a cleansing power; it is a fountain of healing. The invitation is broad; there are no privileged classes. All have sinned; for this Christ died. For this he says, 'Come, whosoever will.' Can anything be plainer? 'Come; and let him that heareth say, 'Come; and whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.'"

"Strange! strange! I knew all this, and still I failed to read it rightly. Christ came into the world to save the children from the consequences of the sin," exclaimed Quince, the truth breaking upon his soul in full effulgence.

"To save from sin—yes; and not only to save, but he gives of his fulness the riches of grace, his abounding promise: 'If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you.' 'As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you; let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.' These words were said by Jesus to his immediate disciples; and not only to them, but to all who should believe through their word. 'Whosoever will.' Remember, Quince, it is to the 'whosoever will.'"

After this there were many gatherings in the small parlor, and the pale face of the delicate woman was full of enthusiasm as she discoursed of faith and love and confidence in God.

(To be Continued.)

ROUGH HANDLING OF CHILDREN.

The causes of joint diseases in childhood are frequently obscure, but this much is certain, that the rough handling which children receive at the hands of ignorant parents or careless nurses, has much to do with the matter. Stand on any street corner and notice how children are handled. Here comes a lady with a three-year-old girl; she is walking twice as fast as she should, and the child is over-exerting itself to keep pace; every time the child lags, the mother gives it a sudden and unexpected lurch which is enough to throw its shoulder out, to say nothing of bruising the delicate structure of the joints; a gutter is reached; instead of giving the little toddler time to get over it in his own way or properly lifting it, the mother raises it from the ground by one hand, its whole weight depending from one upper extremity, and with a swing which twists the child's body as far around as the joints will permit it is landed, after a course of four or five feet through the air, on the other side.

Here is a girl twelve years old with a baby of a year in her arms. The babe sits on the girl's arm without support to its back. This would be a hard enough position to maintain were the girl standing still, but she is walking rapidly, and the little one has to gather the entire strength of its muscular system to adapt itself to its changing base of support to say nothing of adjusting its little body to sudden leaps and darts on the part of its wayward nurse. Sometimes during a sudden advance you will see a part of the babe a foot in advance of its head and trunk, which have to be brought up by a powerful and sudden action of the muscles of the trunk and neck.

Probably not one child in one hundred is properly handled.—Cincinnati, *Lancet and Critic*.

TOO MUCH SUGAR.

A mother often complains that her child is troubled greatly with a sour stomach, but this cause is no longer mysterious when the mother, to quiet the little one so that she can continue her account of the case, sets down before her a little dish of sugar, from which the child may help itself. Most mothers would give candy or a cookie instead, though some feed their children lumps of sugar from the bowl, believing that the children need sugar, and might better have it in that form than any other. In any case of this kind here is a very frequent call for water.

Do you know how vinegar is made? You can get plenty of it by simply mixing sugar or molasses with water and keeping it warm. A sour taste in the mouth after eating sweets, is of very common occurrence. It is the acid caused by the fermentation of the sugar left in the mouth, with the saliva, that causes the decay of children's teeth—this and the lack of bone-forming material in the daily food. Vinegar "eats" lime, as one can tell by leaving an egg in vinegar. Bits of sugar or candy left to ferment among the teeth destroy their enamel, as well as do pickles. The child that is fed on sweets naturally craves pickles as an antidote, but well-fed children are contented with plain nourishing food, if properly pre-

pared and sufficiently varied. Many imagine that all children should have free access to sugar and pickles, in order to supply what they suppose to be natural cravings, and to prevent thefts of sugar from the family bowl. A mistaken policy.—Faith Rochester, in *American Agriculturist*.

BIRTHDAYS.

Let the birthday of each member of the family be always remembered when it comes. Let there be something out of the ordinary routine in the arrangement of the table—pies fashioned as Jennie likes them best, one of Frank's favorite plum-puddings, or Julia's special liking, a loaf of ginger-cake or a wonderful lemon-pie, such as only "mamma" can make. There must be presents. Sometimes people may think that they cannot be afforded; but reflect: the little one needs shoes, dresses, aprons, and many other articles. Purchase one or more for her birthday; it will seem just as much a present to her as though she was not obliged to have it. Next come story books, a knitted wrap, and a pair of skates (should the birthday occur in winter), a pretty little school satchel, etc. Encourage the little ones to give to one another, and remember father's and mother's birthday.

PUZZLES.



ILLUSTRATED GEOGRAPHICAL PUZZLE.

In this puzzle are shown five horizontal lines, each line containing five monograms. In each monogram will be found one or more white letters. First row: the white letters will spell the name of one of the United States. All the letters in the first monogram will form a city; second, a river; third, a city; fourth a bay; fifth, a town; all in the State spelled by the white letters. Second row: white letters, a country in Europe. Letters of first monogram, a river; second, a city; third, a river; fourth, a city; fifth, a coast town; all in the country spelled by the white letters. Third row: white letters, a division of the Eastern continent. Letters of first monogram, an island; second, a country; third, a city in the country named by the fourth; fifth, a city; all in the division named by the white letters. Fourth row: white letters, one of the United States. Letters of first monogram, an island; second, a series of lakes; third, a bay; fourth, a river; fifth, a city; all in the State named by the white letters. Fifth row: white letters, a country of Europe. Letters of first monogram, a river; second, a city; third, a city; fourth, a river; fifth, a coast town; all in the country named by the white letters.—St. Nicholas.

ENIGMA

He that in music takes delight,  
And he that sleeps secure at night,  
And he who sails too near the land,  
And he that's caught by law's strong hand,  
He who his time in tavern spends,  
And he that courts of law attends—  
Are all acquainted well with me;  
My name you surely now must see.

TWO DIAMONDS.

```

*       *
*   o   *
* * * * *
*   o   *
*       *
    
```

- 1, A vowel; 2, to enlarge; 3, sharpened;
- 4, a cave; 5, a consonant.
- Second diamond—1, A consonant; 2, a serpent; 3, instruments with which to work;
- 4, abbreviation of a Southern State; 5, a consonant.

Reading across the two we find some things that are useful, and yet, in a figurative sense, we are warned against.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

- CHARADE.—Pearl-ash. Pear-lash.  
THREE ENIGMAS.—Wred, Holly, Plum-cake.  
WORD PUZZLE.—1, Mite-night; 2, pearl-purr;  
3, flower-flour; 4, quilt-right; 5, beef-bier.  
BEHARDED ANIMALS.—Wessel; 2, bat; 3, sloth; 4, bear; 5, swine; 6, whale; 7, mink; 8, boar; 9, fox; 10, stag; 11, goat; 12, hare; 13, cat.

## The Weekly Messenger.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1.

## THE DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons the resolutions to grant the Canadian Pacific Railway further assistance in the shape of a loan of about thirty millions passed by a majority of seventy-five. For some time before the division the French Conservative members from Quebec were in a state of mutiny against the Government, holding aloof from the debate and even from the chamber until they should receive a pledge from the Government of certain concessions to their Province. A member of the Government, also—the Hon. John Costigan, Minister of Inland Revenue—revolted and tendered his resignation. This, however, he subsequently withdrew, and it has not yet transpired what was the cause of his disaffection or the terms of his reconciliation. It is understood that the Quebec malcontents were appeased by a pledge of the Premier that a competing line of railway with the Grand Trunk should be established between Montreal and Quebec, and the River St. Lawrence bridged at the latter port. Possibly, too, they were promised to have the financial relations of their Province with the Dominion improved. Deputations from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have been at the capital, asking federal aid to certain extensions and feeders of the Government system of railways. Among these are a branch into the town of Pictou, a line from Moncton to Buctouche and the revival and completion of the Short Line project—the shortest route from the West to the extreme East. Sir Leonard Tilley, the Finance Minister, was asked in due form in the House concerning the advances amounting to \$300,000, which he made to the Exchange Bank before its suspension. In reply, the Minister said he was advised that the Government had first claim upon the Bank's assets, and when they failed it would look to the personal sureties for the rest. Senator Ogilvie, the wealthy farmer and miller of the North-West and Montreal, is surety for a third of the amount. It was elicited, by interrogation, that the Hon. Hector Fabre received \$2,000 for services performed in France under the High Commission of Canada and England. A bill is proposed by a private member to declare it a misdemeanor to leave unguarded and exposed holes made in the ice of any navigable or frequented water. The Committee on Banking and Commerce threw out a bill to reduce the number of directors of the Royal Canadian Insurance Company, upon the ground that it would be taking away from the protection of the small shareholders. Answering a question, Sir Charles Tupper, Minister of Railways, said the estimated cost of constructing the Lake Superior division of the Canadian Pacific Railway was \$16,000,000 and \$800,000 for rolling stock. Sir John Macdonald said the Government would bring down a measure regarding the salaries of license commissioners. Sir Alexander Campbell, upon hearing representations in the Senate that the life-saving service on Fable Island was insufficient, promised that the Government would attend to the matter. Before the committee on colonization and emigration it was shown that 205,863 immigrants arrived in Canada last year, of whom 133,303 settled in the country, and 6,559 were assisted Irish people. Of the latter there are in Toronto, destitute, 106 males, 117 females and 454 children.

## UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

A bill has passed the House reducing postage to one cent for four ounces on second class mail matter when sent by others than newspaper publishers or agents. In the Senate a bill has been introduced for the admission of Dakota as a State. On Monday night of last week the Republicans in the House abstained from voting, causing a block to the proceedings and an entire waste of time throughout the sitting. The Ways and Means Committee has been told by one interested that the tariff bill of Mr. Morrison threatened the overthrow of the cotton industry of New England. Likewise the glass men told the Committee that a reduction in the tariff would close the glass factories, and a meeting of tea merchants in New York resolved that disaster would follow a disturbance of the tariff on that article. After all the monopolists have had their say, we wonder if the people who pay the taxes will be asked for their views in detail. Senator Kerner has introduced a resolution to bring to the attention of the Government the propriety and necessity of providing a territorial reservation for the exclusive use and local government of such of the negro race as may prefer a negro population and a local negro government to demonstrate their capacity of self-government and the highest development of their race. On Thursday the Secretary of State reported regarding the presentation to the United States by the British Government of the steamer "Alert," with all her findings, for use in the Greely relief expedition. The report was applauded repeatedly, and only Messrs. Finerty and Robinson, of New York, voted against a motion to have the graceful present formally and appropriately acknowledged by the Committee on Foreign Affairs. "Can we not have ships of our own without begging?" Mr. Robinson asked of the Speaker. "The chair cannot answer that question," rejoined the Speaker. In the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Mr. Belmont criticized the conduct of Mr. Hewitt in visiting Mr. West, the British Minister, after the passage of the resolution asking the British Government to stay the execution of O'Donnell. Mr. Hewitt responded by presenting a letter from Mr. West which stated that at the visit Mr. Hewitt urged a prompt compliance by the British Government with the request of the resolution. An effect of the O'Donnell resolution will be that the House will hereafter refer all resolutions on foreign politics to the Committee on Foreign Affairs for consideration instead of rushing them through. Mr. Curtin, the chairman of that Committee, is said to be determined that something must be done by the House to signify its resentment to the "wilful and gratuitous insult" offered by Prince Bismarck in returning the resolution passed upon the late Mr. Lasker, of Germany. This is another matter where a little slower movement might have served the interests of good sense and the dignity of the House better than the haste with which the Lasker resolution, eulogizing one of the strongest opponents of the German Government, was flung across the seas for presentation to the German Parliament, to reach which it had to receive the sanction of the Emperor and his Government. As a German paper, probably with justice, remarks: "We believe Lasker was unknown to the majority of the Congressmen of the United States. Their object in adopting the resolution was to gain German votes in the coming Presidential election, and to win the love of the Germans at home who are desirous to throw the gates of the fatherland wide open to American imports." During a discussion

in the House on the Military Academy bill it was charged that snobs ruled at West Point and that the annual ball had degenerated into a vicious matrimonial market.

## THE WEEK.

THERE HAS BEEN SERIOUS FIGHTING in Loanda, West Africa, between Dutch colonists and natives. The natives had taken offence at the employment by the Dutch factory of a person obnoxious to them. Eight hundred natives attacked the factory, which the agent defended with four cannon and one hundred men. A large number of natives took shelter behind the powder magazine. The whites fired into the magazine, exploding it, and forty natives were killed.

M. DELESSEPS said at a late banquet in Paris that the Suez Canal was neither English nor French, but belonged to all nations. Another speaker said that when Englishmen were fighting for civilization in remote regions Frenchmen were unable to harbor jealousy, and when Frenchmen were coping with barbarism in distant seas Englishmen could only approve. Nicely said, but the words are only prophetic so far.

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS in Manchester and Salford, England, combined to ask the municipal rulers to undertake relief works.

A QUARREL between Meissonier, the famous French artist, and the art critic of a leading Paris paper, over a picture the former painted of Mrs. Mackey, of Nevada, United States, almost led to a duel. Mrs. Mackey pronounced the picture, in effect, as "not a bit like her," and refused to accept it, and the annoyance this caused the artist was aggravated by the comments of the critic. Ultimately the dispute was amicably settled.

THE FIRST SUGAR REFINERY ever established in Cuba is building in Cardenas.

A NICE POINT has arisen in St. John, New Brunswick, in connection with the Dominion License Act. The Mayor refuses to take the place of Commissioner given him by the law, upon the ground that under the city charter the sole right to grant licenses belongs to the mayor. St. John holds its charter directly from King George III, and hence claims peculiar privileges over the rest of the Dominion.

THE VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE passed over the Governor's veto bills taking from the Governor the power of appointing officers of lunatic asylums and vacating the boards of directors. Another bill has been disallowed by the Governor—that to reappoint this representation of Virginia in Congress.

THREE YEARS WILL BE REQUIRED to complete tools, construct shops and establish plant for the proposed national gun factory of the United States.

A GIGANTIC CONSPIRACY of railway men against the public has been exposed by the *San Francisco Chronicle* in the publication of a circular issued by the Railway Shareholders' Association and signed John Livingstone, President, New York. It calls upon shareholders to subscribe certain sums with the object of raising an immediate fund to defeat legislation on all railway matters, secure the repeal of existing laws and the abolition of railway commissions.

BUSINESS OF ALL KINDS has been suspended in Southern Colorado on account of the snow blockade.

THE STRIKE OF WEAVERS in East Lancashire, England, is ended.

A GANG OF YOUTHFUL THIEVES was surprised in a shanty near Oil City, Pennsylvania, by the police. Besides a lot of stolen plunder, the contents of the den comprised a quantity of bad reading matter, that undoubtedly had a good deal to do with the boys' depravity.

MR. N. S. AFFLEBY, a former representative of East Hastings in the Ontario Legislature, was lately arrested for forgery and admitted to bail in six thousand dollars, which he forfeited by failing to appear when called by the magistrate.

ACCORDING TO A LONDON PAPER the Czar of Russia has for some time been virtually insane from terror. The same authority considers the present state of things in Russia cannot last many months, but no man can predict what the issue will be.

A SNOW SLIDE at Park City, Utah, destroyed the house of William Rich, miner, killing his three children and fatally injuring his wife. John Harris's house was also struck and his wife killed and himself wounded. Citizens living in the back streets took warning by these casualties, and moved out of the gulch.

A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION of gunpowder occurred in the wholesale hardware store of Hobbs, Osborne & Hobbs, London, Ontario, last week. It occurred in the fourth flat of the building where four of the employees were engaged at the time. Donald Smith, the man in charge of the flat, was killed, and Percy Ince, shorthand writer, and Frank Shaw, assistant book-keeper, were fatally injured. The loss of property is estimated at from \$30,000 to \$50,000, including damage done to adjoining buildings and stocks by fire, water and concussion. Shaw, the last to die, was able to give an account before his death to the coroner's jury in the inquest on Smith. He said Ince was examining different kinds of powder stored on the flat in question, and the last witness knew before being overwhelmed in the crash was seeing Ince take a match from his pocket and rub it on a board upon which he had spread a sample of coarse powder.

THE ALLAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY has obtained judgment for its full claim of damages against a Chicago grain shipping firm, for making default in four contracts for cargoes.

THE PROHIBITORY LIQUOR BILL has passed the Iowa Senate by 35 to 13. This is cheering news for those engaged in the fight against the giant evil all over the continent.

THE MONTENEGROS hold certain strongholds in Peru and are committing atrocities. Several citizens of Yanzas have been assassinated by these barbarians.

THREE THOUSAND WORKINGMEN out of employment held a meeting at St. Etienne, France, on Sunday. They elected Cyvoet, under sentence of death for causing the explosion in a theatre restaurant in Lyons, as honorary president. Fifteen delegates were sent to the prefect, who informed them he was unable to remedy the labor crisis, but would do his utmost for the men.

IN MADAGASCAR the Hovas are making secret but formidable preparations for giving the French a hot reception next time they violate their territory.

THERE HAS THE Dominion executive sancti passed by the against China orial styles th describable cl 15,000 to 18,00 in the Provinc being in a dep the country. Dominion Go gulating the in employment o lic works. Onc ing Chinaman ten dollars, a long as he s without a lice dollars, and t he fine forfei ployers of Cl true list of t penalty of 1 months' impr in an unlice cost of a fi miners must a certificate, a laid upon one No one may e man under a This strikes spot, for his b for him if his any other co fronted in his alty of a hun ing opium, a goes laid up tary arrange second bill Celestials m under a pe months' imp come into tl

UP TO TH 23 foreigners expelled fro needed with house of the motion that for the famil extraordinary. He was call keeping to tl length was short. Cou the poor law the families a radical org lies of exp state aid. 7 vote of 155 t in Vienna a jug them ho live. Duri Hungary, of Vonzekele, sation, a gr prison and c ed by the po

A CHILD Quebec, set and was so l day. Reub Crockett, Te night and le At ten o'clo be on fire, a none of the

A BUSINESS been fined t an advertis stamp.



THERE HAVE COME TO THE HANDS OF the Dominion Government, for federal executive sanction, a memorial and two bills passed by the British Columbia Legislature against Chinese immigration. The memorial styles the Chinese as "that most indescribable class of immigrants." From 15,000 to 18,000 Chinese are estimated to be in the Province, a large proportion of them being in a deplorable state and a burden to the country. Legislation is asked from the Dominion Government restricting and regulating the immigration, and prohibiting the employment of Chinese upon Dominion public works. One of the bills taxes every incoming Chinaman above fourteen years of age ten dollars, and fourteen dollars a year as long as he stays. Any Chinaman found without a license is liable to a fine of forty dollars, and any official neglecting to exact the fine forfeits one hundred dollars. Employers of Chinese must give collectors a true list of those in their employ under a penalty of one hundred dollars or two months' imprisonment. Any one employing an unlicensed Chinaman does so at the cost of a fine of fifty dollars. Chinese miners must pay fifteen dollars a year for a certificate, and a fine of thirty dollars is laid upon one mining without the certificate. No one may exhume the remains of a Chinaman under a penalty of a hundred dollars. This strikes the Chinaman in a religious spot, for his belief is that there is no salvation for him if his bones mingle with the dust of any other country than China. He is confronted in his carnal propensities with a penalty of a hundred dollars for using or having opium, and there are onerous embargoes laid upon him with regard to the sanitary arrangements of his dwelling. The second bill strikes at the immigration of Celestials more directly, making it unlawful, under a penalty of fifty dollars, or six months' imprisonment, for a Chinaman to come into the Province.

UP TO THE TWENTIETH OF FEBRUARY 23 foreigners and 215 Austrians have been expelled from the country for being connected with the Anarchists. In the lower house of the Legislature a member made a motion that state aid should be provided for the families of those expelled under the extraordinary laws against the Anarchists. He was called to order repeatedly for not keeping to the point in his speech, and at length was compelled to cut his remarks short. Count von Taaffe, in reply, said that the poor laws made sufficient provision for the families in question. He also read from a radical organ an article advising the families of expelled persons to refuse the brutal state aid. The motion was defeated by a vote of 155 to 25. Placards have been posted in Vienna appealing to the people and asking them how long they will let the monarch live. During the execution at Pesth, Hungary, of the three murderers of Count Vonzekeley, President of the Court of Cassation, a great mob collected around the prison and cheered the felons until dispersed by the police.

A CHILD LEFT ALONE at St. Barnabé, Quebec, set fire to its clothing with matches, and was so badly burned that it died next day. Reuben Hart and wife, living near Crockett, Texas, went to church on Sunday night and left six children at home asleep. At ten o'clock the house was discovered to be on fire, and it burned so quickly that none of the children could be saved.

A BUSINESS FIRM in Philadelphia has been fined one hundred dollars for using an advertisement designed like a postage stamp.

COUNTERFEIT TWENTY FRANC PIECES discovered in circulation in Belgium are supposed to have been struck on board a small steamer continually travelling from one port to another.

BAD NEWS FROM THE SOUDAN has arrived during the week, being tidings of the surrender of Tokar. It was virtually given away by the Egyptian garrison, there being a sufficiency of munitions and stores to hold out for relief. Five thousand British troops are now facing eighteen thousand rebels at Trinkitat, and better reports may be expected shortly.

#### THE DOMINION ALLIANCE FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

ANNUAL ANNOUNCEMENT, FEBRUARY, 1884.

At the annual meeting of the Dominion Council of the Alliance, held at Ottawa on January 21st and February 1st, a resolution was adopted in favor of an immediate agitation for the adoption of the Scott Act in every county of the Dominion in which such action has not already been taken.

This course was decided upon for the purpose of (1) Securing in every part of the Dominion the thorough discussion of the temperance question that invariably proves a powerful means of developing and stimulating public sentiment in favor of sorely needed reform, (2) Securing a substantial expression of the strong feeling that undoubtedly exists against the whole liquor system—this would be practically a demand for total prohibition that Parliament would be obliged to recognize, (3) Securing immediately the extension, over as much territory as possible, of the operation of the Scott Act, which already in some places has produced incalculable good, greatly diminishing the evils of intemperance.

At the same meeting a deputation was appointed to wait upon the Dominion Government and urge the desirability of providing for the simultaneous polling of the different counties that may petition for the submission of the Act.

In view of the above detailed action the Executive of the Alliance requests all friends of the temperance movement in every part of the Dominion to at once set to work unitedly, determinedly and vigorously for the circulation in their respective localities of petitions praying for the submission of the said Act. The time is opportune; the necessity for some check to the terrible ravages of drink is daily becoming more manifest and imperative; and the loyal workers who have hitherto upheld the cause so nobly and unflinchingly are earnestly called upon to rally again in support of this movement. It has been decided upon, after mature deliberation, as the only hopeful course now open, and the most certain to secure real progress towards prohibition.

To succeed in this work it is especially desirable that there should be formed, at once, in every county and city, a strong central committee of active temperance workers, including representatives from the different local organizations, to plan and direct combined and energetic action. It is also desirable that there should be formed in every locality a branch of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. This Society has proved an invaluable agency for work in every part of the Dominion.

Further information, directions for procedure, forms of petitions for signature, &c., may be procured from the secretaries of the Provincial Branches of the Alliance, who are as follows:

Ontario, F. S. Spence, 8 King street East, Quebec, Rev. D. V. Lucas, Point St. Charles, Montreal.

New Brunswick, C. H. Lagrin, Fredericton.

Nova Scotia, P. Monaghan, P. O. box 379, Halifax.

Prince Edward Island, Rev. Geo. W. Hodgson, Charlottetown.

Manitoba, J. A. Tees, Winnipeg.

British Columbia, J. B. Kennedy, New Westminster.

It is expected that during the present session of parliament there will be introduced in the House of Commons a resolution in favor of total prohibition, and it is requested that electors everywhere will

urge upon their respective representatives their duty to give it a cordial support.

Signed on behalf of the Dominion Council.

A. Vidal, President.  
J. R. Dougall, Chairman of Executive.  
F. S. Spence, Secretary.

N.B.—It is requested that newspapers will kindly give publicity to the above circular, and that all friends of the temperance cause will aid in giving it a wide circulation.

#### LAUGHING GAS.

A WOMAN doesn't use profane language, but the way she says "Gracious!" when she slips down, is full of subtle meaning and inherent force.

POLICEMAN—"Now, then, move on! There's nothing the matter here." Sarcastic buy—"Of course there isn't. If there was you wouldn't be here."

A JOPLY-LOOKING IRISHMAN was saluted with the remark: "Tim, you're house is blown away." "Deed, then it isn't," he answered, "for I have the key in my pocket."

THE DIFFERENCE between a long and short yarn is very well illustrated by the difference of one's feelings in holding a skin for one's grandmother or one's sweetheart.

LITTLE GEORGE was questioned the other day about his big sister's beau. "How old is he?" "I don't know." "Well, is he young?" "I think so, for he hasn't any hair on his head."

LIZZIE—"Aunt, do you like to eat chocolate drops?" Aunt:—"Yes, very much, Lizzie (after some thought):—"Then I think I'd rather give my paper of chocolate drops to grandmamma to keep."

A CULTIVATOR of the thoracic diaphragmatic muscles, and educator of laryngeal contortions and vocal technique" may be better than a singing teacher, but we don't know why.—*Musical Herald.*

LITTLE JENNY belonged to a fashionable set. "Here, Jenny," said her father, "here's a new doll." "Oh, father, that's no good; take it away. They haven't worn those things for a month."

"FRED, why do you call me your duckie darling? Is it because I floated into your affections so swimmingly?" "Hardly that, my dear! It's because, as a rule, you rarely advance toward me but you are holding out a big bill."

#### PROTECTION DEFINED.

Protection, in a nut shell, means,  
A right for certain classes;  
A little law that intervenes  
To help them rob the masses,  
The rich may put their prices high,  
The poor shall be compelled to buy.  
—*Frankfort, Ky., Yeoman.*

#### TRAINING THE YOUNG.

What did those old-fashioned believers, whom the Bible mentions as speaking often to one another, talk about? How young converts in those days must have been nourished and strengthened by listening to the heavenly conversation of those who trusted in and were looking forward to the coming of One who should save his people from their sins, One in whom even the Gentiles might trust!

Some years ago a young Danish girl was converted and united with the church of which I was a member. She spoke good English and was very intelligent. After a year or so had passed I observed that her usually pleasant face wore an unhappy expression, and when opportunity offered I inquired the cause of her sadness. She replied that the church-members did not "talk" to her. I asked if it were possible that the sisters of the church did not recognize and speak to her. "O yes," she replied, "they do speak to me, but all they ever say is: 'It is a pleasant day. How do you do? How does your father do?' She had expected to hear from travellers on the same road with herself, something about the pleasures and dangers of the way, and the mansion of rest at the end of the journey. It was not enough for a hungry young soul to listen again and again to a remark

about the weather, and an inquiry, however kindly it might be, in regard to the welfare of her family; and to day that young sister, grown to womanhood, and the mother of a family is a valuable Christian worker in a more demonstrative church.

Some plan should be adopted at the very outset to induce our young converts to become Bible students. The testimony of travellers on the road, though it be ever so precious and frequent, can not be of such value to them as an intimate acquaintance with the word of God which should be a lamp to their path. I believe that applicants for church-membership should be questioned in regard to, and tested in a measure by their estimation of, and fondness for, the Bible, also their willingness and determination to make it a special study the rest of their lives.—"Thy word have I hid in my heart," says the Psalmist, "that I might not sin against thee," and it is this hiding of the word of God in the heart that will give to our young converts vigorous spiritual strength by which they may overcome temptation and glorify the Father in bearing much fruit, and thereby also prove their discipleship.

I would like to say, here, that in our church in Clinton we have, every Tuesday evening, what we call a Pastor's Bible study. The teachers of the Sunday-school are expected to be present and all others interested in Bible study are invited and urged to attend. The subject for each evening is the Sunday-school lesson for the following Sunday, and kindred topics, and questions may be asked by any one present. The pastor takes great care in preparation for this meeting, and I believe it to be a great help to a knowledge of Bible doctrine, and as profitable to those who attend as the Sunday service can be.—*Standard.*

#### HELPFUL HINTS.

If you have burned yourself, next have self-control enough to remember that excluding all air from it will of itself lessen the pain. Do this promptly with cotton batting or several thicknesses of soft cotton cloth, oil of course. Saturate this cloth as soon as may be with sweet oil, fresh lard, (soften not heat it) or balsam. If an egg is handy the white of it spread over the burn before the bandage is put on is most excellent, but the main thing is, whatever you do, do it quickly. Keep that point in view, the exclusion of the air at once.

I have seen old housekeepers who actually prided themselves on their housewifely virtues, who, when one of the family had cramps in the stomach, and they wished to apply flannels wet in boiling hot tea over the pain, spent many precious moments, running to this drawer, to that box, up stairs and down, searching for what they ought to have been able to put their hands on in the dark, if needful. The old cloth for an emergency, the old flannels for the same, the medicines, all labelled plainly, should have their place.

My mother gave me some old sheets when I went to house-keeping, as all things being new, there would be nothing to tear up to bandage the burned hands and wrists she prophesied for the new housekeeper. One slight burn was all for the first year, despite the croaking. These sheets were put in a drawer.

One day an explosion at a neighbor's resulted in a damaged house and a dying woman. Oil and bandages were wanted, while waiting for a surgeon and anodynes. A woman rushed in. "They are all looking for old sheets, have you got anything to use till they come? I don't suppose you have, as you're just housekeeping."

At the first words I had rushed into my house, she following. Ere she had mounted the piazza, I was back with mother's old sheets. With large-eyed wonder she took them. "How did you know where to look for them?"

It made a great impression on my mind and taught me that many did not know "where to look." As long as that neighbor lived, she would occasionally recur to the singular fact that a newly married woman had material for such need and knew where it was. Such a thing will not happen more than once in a life-time, but don't be unprepared that once. Friends have completely borrowed me out of old cloth when the need came upon them. I lent, but wished they would learn wisdom and save their own.—*The Household.*

## WHICH WAS THE MORE GENEROUS?

BY MARY B. LEE.

"How generous Will Merton is, and different from his brother," exclaimed Laura Carby, as she held up a \$5 note.

"Why, what has he done?" asked her sister Ella.

"Bought \$5 worth of tickets for our concert. I wanted Robert to take some, but he declined, saying he could not afford it, when I know he gets as much salary as Will."

"No proof of generosity in one brother or the lack of it in the other. Will took the tickets because you asked him, not from any charitable motive. Probably Robert had some more important use for \$5, and also the moral courage to refuse a young lady's invitation to buy concert tickets in aid of a charitable object. I only say what may be. Of course I do not know what demands either brother has upon him. I only want to argue that buying or refusing to buy the tickets is no proof of character."

"But Will is always free with money. He took me to a picture gallery last week, and he wears such handsome gloves and boots, and dresses so well all the time. Robert is generally shabby. He wears one pair of gloves for months, and carries a cotton umbrella. As to going to the expense of taking a young lady out, I never heard of his doing such a thing."

"Still we should know something of their domestic concerns before deciding the question which is the most generous of the two. To me, Robert's face indicates a more thoughtful, considerate character than Will's. I believe they have a mother and several sisters."

"Oh! yes, but I guess they are pretty well off. Mrs. Merton owns the house they live in, so they can't be very poor."

"You forget taxes, assessments, and so forth. I always fear there is something neglected when young men on moderate salaries are free with their money. That is the reason I dislike to ask my friends to buy tickets."

"You are too scrupulous. If I can sell my tickets I am satisfied."

"And I am not. I think ladies do wrong when they induce gentlemen to spend money due for clothing or board."

"What should we do for amusement if every one were so particular?"

"If we had less so-called amusement, we should also have less poverty; if people were just first and generous afterwards, that is, if they paid just debts before buying concert tickets or paying for amusement."

"Well, I say again, Will Merton is generous, and I believe he pays all his debts as well."

Some time after Laura learned that there are different kinds of generosity. She found that a man may dress well, wear handsome gloves, carry a silk umbrella, and spend his salary freely, and yet be very careless about the comfort of those nearest and dearest to him.

Laura and Ella were calling on Miss Knowles, a friend, who was very intimate with the Mertons. After some conversation on various subjects, Miss Knowles asked:

"Did you read last night's paper?"

"Yes," answered both Laura and Ella.

"Did you notice the good news for some friends of ours?"

"No," said Laura. "I saw nothing about any one we know."

"Then you did not read the list of appointments in the schools?"

"No; why should I? I don't happen to know any teachers, so I am not interested in school news."

"But you do happen to know the brothers of a teacher whose appointment was in last night's paper?"

"Who is it?" asked Laura, while Ella said quietly, "I think you must mean one of the Misses Merton."

"Right, Ella. Josephine Merton, the second sister. She is a clever girl, and I am delighted that she has succeeded."

"But why do you call that good news?" asked Laura.

"You would call it good news if you knew how much she needed it. You forget that an appointment means a salary—so much a month—a very important consideration while we sojourn on this terrestrial sphere."

"You surprise me about the Mertons. I

supposed they were well off. Will and Robert have good salaries."

"Yes, you would not suppose there was any lack of means to look at William Merton. But, unfortunately, he spends nearly all his salary on himself. He just pays his board, and never seems able to do any more. Their house would have been sold for taxes long ago but for Robert. By doing without new clothing, and by denying himself in every way, he managed to save the tax money; then there was an assessment, which had Mrs. Merton in a state of chronic worry. Robert had to save that by the closest economy."

"Do you mean that Will never helps at all?" asked Laura.

"He never can. He is what is called a generous young man. That is, he dresses fashionably, and buys tickets for this, that, and the other besides taking his lady friends to various places of amusement."

Laura blushed but remained silent, while Miss Knowles went on.

"All this time the women folk were pinching and striving to make ends meet. I heard our minister say in one of his sermons that 'self-denial lifts one to the plane of the angels.' I often think it is so in Robert Merton's case. Every time I see him I think the expression of his face more beautiful."

"His face indicates a very fine character indeed," said Ella.

"Yes, but to return to this good news. Josephine has been studying hard to prepare herself for teaching. She graduated about a year ago, and has been trying for a position ever since. Her salary will make things much easier. I ran round last night to congratulate the whole family. You never saw people so happy. They seemed to think that Josephine's salary would do everything."

"What about the other sisters?" asked Ella.

"Well, Jessie, the oldest, is not strong. She makes herself useful in the house, but she couldn't go out to teach. Lizzie, the youngest, is still at school, preparing to be a teacher, like Josephine. Oh, what hard times the Mertons have had!"

"I had no idea of it," said Laura musingly. "I thought that when people owned a house, and the sons had good salaries, that everything was sure to go on smoothly."

"Far from smoothly, when one or both of the sons spends all his salary on himself."

Laura learned quite a lesson on the subject of generosity. She saw that there might be more true generosity in refusing than in giving, in being careful of money than in spending it freely, in wearing shabby clothes than in wearing new ones.—*Christian at Work.*

## THE FAMILY WORSHIP OF OUR FATHERS.

BY REV. T. D. WITHERSPOON, D. D.

In the early dawn of a crisp November morning there was an unwonted stir about the farmhouse of Paul Fulton. During the night the whistle or a steamboat had been heard ascending the river. It was the first of the season, and this being the only mode of communication with Mobile, it was very important to take advantage of this arrival and make a shipment of cotton for the early market, and for the purchase of needed plantation supplies.

Sample Bluff, the nearest point on the river, was several miles distant. At the present stage of water the vessel would probably not venture farther, but after unloading, and taking on what freight was in readiness, would put about and return to Mobile. Everything was moving to reach the landing before the steamer should depart. Long before day the teams had been fed and harnessed, and the men had rolled the bales from the cotton-shed and lifted them upon the waggon. In the gray light of the morning two waggon loads thus loaded with five bales each. The mules were brought out and attached. The drivers were just preparing to mount when the great bell on the front portico announced the call to family worship.

Every one on the farm knew the imperative law of the old elder that all members of the family, servants as well as children, must be at morning prayers. The foreman therefore felt it necessary to send a special messenger to ask that he and the drivers of the two waggon loads be excused for

absence, as they were ready to move and the case was urgent. The reply was characteristic: "Tell him that the more urgent the business the more need of first asking God's blessing, and the waggoners must undo the traces and come in to prayers."

There were many restless hearts at prayers that morning. Several of the boys had been promised a ride on the waggon to see the steamboat, and to them it seemed as though the devotions would never end. But the old patriarch did not vary a hair's breadth from his daily custom. He read a selection from Scott's Family Bible together with the "Practical Observations." He then followed with a few practical observations of his own, then, with clear sonorous voice, he sang several verses of a hymn giving out the lines so that the deep rich voices of the servants might join with his own. Then came the prayer, which was not at all shortened because of the exigencies of the case.

The amen uttered, there was a rush for the waggon and a cracking of whips. Breakfast was forgotten in the race for the river. But all in vain. Just as the point was reached which commanded a view of the stream, the coveted steamer was seen gracefully backing from the wharf. Too late! The fifteen minutes spent in family worship had lost the golden opportunity.

The foreman returned with a heavy heart to report to "old master." The boat was gone, and the family prayer had lost it. "Never mind, Isaac," said the old patriarch, apparently without the least shade of disappointment, "it is all right, and you'll see that it is. A man never loses anything by serving God faithfully."

And Isaac did see very soon that it was all right, for in about a week tidings came that the steamer which the foreman had labored so hard to reach had caught fire and burned to the water's edge. The cotton on board had either been consumed, or so damaged as to be unsalable. The steamer which brought the tidings of the wreck carried Paul Fulton's cotton safely to market; and Isaac, long after his old master's death, loved to tell how the old man's family prayer had saved ten bales of cotton from the flames. Whenever he found a disposition on the part of the younger members of the family to neglect the family altar, or to omit under stress of peculiar circumstances the accustomed morning offering, he would shake his head ominously and say, "It was not so in old master's time, and the reason why the Lord blessed him as he did Abraham with abundance of flocks and herds, was because he never failed to give the Lord what was his due."

It is a lesson that may come home to many a householder now, who feels the importance of family worship, and yet allows the hurry of preparation for business or the most trivial interruptions, to thrust aside this precious and valuable ordinance. Paul Fulton was right when he said, "A man never loses anything by serving God faithfully."—*Illustrated Christian Weekly.*

## BOYS' AND GIRLS' TEMPERANCE TEXT-BOOK.

(National Temperance Society, New York.)

## LESSON III.—ALCOHOL AND PAUPERISM.

What is pauperism?

Pauperism is a condition of poverty, or being without support, or the means of obtaining it.

How large is the army of men and women and children in these United States that are thus without support or the means to obtain it?

The best calculation places the number at between four and five hundred thousand.

What proportion of the persons destitute of support or the means to obtain it, reached this condition directly or indirectly, through the use of alcoholic drinks?

More than four-fifths, or four persons are without the ability of self-support from this cause to one from all other causes combined.

What is the estimated annual cost of pauperism in the United States?

Not less than forty millions of dollars.

How much of this is directly and indirectly chargeable to the use of alcoholic drinks?

Four-fifths, or between thirty and forty millions of dollars.

How is this sum paid?

By a direct tax on the property of the people.

## HINTS TO TEACHERS ON THE CURRENT LESSONS.

(From Paloubet's Select Notes)

March 9.—Acts 18: 1-17.

## ILLUSTRATIVE.

I. Paul, the tent-maker. The gospel enables us to glorify honest daily toil by inspiring it with a noble motive, and making it a means to worthy ends. What makes the difference between the geologist with his hammer, and the man who breaks stones on the road—between the work of caring for old bones in the British Museum, and that of the old bone-man in the streets? It is the mind and purpose they put in it, one working only with his hands, the other by the same work entering into the mind of the Creator, and reading the history God wrote in the rocks ages ago. So the motive to do good, the desire for the glory of God, the service of Jesus Christ, transpires and transforms daily toil, like the sun shining on the dark fogs and clouds of earth, and making them radiant as the gate of heaven.

II. I have much people in this city. Michael Angelo, the wonderful artist, walking with some friends one day through an obscure street in Florence, saw a block of marble, rough, shapeless, stained, lying amid a heap of rubbish. Others had passed by it carelessly, but his keen eye saw that it was a treasure, and he set to cleaning away the filth that obscured it. "What are you doing with that worthless rock?" asked one of his friends. "Oh," says Angelo, "there is an angel in that block, and I must get it out." So God saw in sinful humanity, stained, defiled, and wretched, the possibility of angels and saints redeemed. It is this possibility that made it worth while for Christ to die for men. It is this which should incite us to labor with long patience, that men may be saved.—P.

## PRACTICAL.

1. Ver. 1. In this wicked and corrupt city of Corinth were some of the richest triumphs of Gospel. In the worst places God can create the best saints.

2. Ver. 3. Christ and Paul, his apostle, honored and sanctified honest, faithful, manual labor. Labor does not degrade men, but men may exalt labor into the service of God.

3. Every young person of either sex should learn some business or trade or profession, as a means of livelihood in case of need.

4. Our daily business is not a hindrance to the Gospel, but is the means of contact with other men, by means of which we can preach the Gospel to them.

5. Ver. 5. When Christians are "pressed in spirit" or by word, and there is a constraining, burning desire to lead others to Christ, and to speak the Word to them, many conversions are almost sure to follow.

6. Earnestness on the part of Christians awakens greater opposition on the part of the enemies of the Gospel. Intense opposition is often a hopeful and not a despairing sign for the Church.

7. Ver. 6. In this Christian land, those who fall of heaven will find that the blame lies upon themselves. They are moral suicides. God opens the door, and they refuse to enter.

8. Vers. 9, 10. God gives special encouragement in times of special need.

9. Even the most eminent saints, and men endowed with a heroic faith, have had seasons of weakness and hours of temptation, in which they needed encouragement and strength from above.—*Gorsk.*

10. Opposers are forever uttering falsehoods and making untrue charges against the Gospel and its servants. None are so narrow and so illiberal as the leading opponents of the Gospel.

## SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

There is no particular subject to this lesson, except such a general one as the gospel progress (1) through daily labor; (2) by burden for souls; (3) amid discouragements; (4) with God's help; (5) by patient continuance in well doing. But we can learn lessons continually from the history as we study it. I. Paul preaching to the Jews at Corinth (vers. 1-6.) (1) In daily work; (2) in the Sabbath services; (3) amid opposition. II. Paul preaching to the Gentiles at Corinth (vers. 7-17.) (1) At Justus' house; (2) for a long time; (3) with success; (4) with encouragement from God; (5) against opposition.

## THE M

There are ple cal men and w hypocritical chil but I never hea one member of creation who ha faults, and he, I probably falsely tim of appearance stitious fancies o people.

In most warn is found a little mantis. I shou engravings I some varieties lo grasshoppers, ar read about has pearance of when lying mo ground.

I read of him which it is sa clasps his hand never before his pious an insect, to discover so his character.

the middle age to be really a knowing creat dren encounte had only to im the little insect one of its long paws, and poi rection. Or it across a child p taking a walk i stead of going i point out warn naughty schols return to his d

This was al the mantis ha tite. The app nibal, and the mantis so over that they attac dently for the and after a ter was left aliv drooping stre meal on the m his foe. The over, and one grave within t the victor rai about to walk and folding hi peared to giv pleasant repa by, seeing th tion might b insect-saint, t time they disc habits. A ma enough to eat he was oblige for every mou

But sometin absolutely ki enemies in or of mantis mea they should and then depa the delicate they met agai have grown t the old, such An old trav that in summ



## THE MANTIS.

There are plenty of hypocritical men and women, and some hypocritical children, I am afraid, but I never heard of more than one member of the unthinking creation who had that worst of faults, and he, poor wretch, was probably falsely accused, the victim of appearances and the superstitious fancies of narrow-minded people.

In most warm countries there is found a little insect called the mantis. I should think, from the engravings I have seen, that some varieties look something like grasshoppers, and one kind I have read about has the color and appearance of withered leaves when lying motionless upon the ground.

I read of him first in a poem, in which it is said, "The mantis clasps his hands in prayer," and never before having heard of so pious an insect, I was interested to discover something more of his character. It seems that in the middle ages he was believed to be really a very wise and knowing creature. If lost children encountered a mantis they had only to inquire the road and the little insect would stretch out one of its long feelers, or forepaws, and point in the right direction. Or if a mantis came across a child playing truant, and taking a walk in the country instead of going to school, it would point out warningly the way the naughty scholar ought to take to return to his duty.

This was all very well. But the mantis had a horrible appetite. The appetite of a real cannibal, and the sight of another mantis so overcame both parties that they attacked each other violently for the sake of a dinner; and after a terrific combat if one was left alive he revived his drooping strength by a hearty meal on the mangled remains of his foe. Then, when all was over, and one insect had found a grave within the other, it is said the victor raised himself as if about to walk on his hind legs, and folding his long forepaws, appeared to give thanks for his pleasant repast; so that passers-by, seeing this attitude of devotion might believe him to be an insect-saint, until in course of time they discovered his dreadful habits. A mantis could never get enough to eat; probably because he was obliged to fight so hard for every mouthful.

But sometimes they need not absolutely kill their friends or enemies in order to obtain a meal of mantis meat, for if in the duel they should both lose a limb, and then depart in peace to enjoy the delicate bone, by the time they met again new limbs might have grown to take the place of the old, such is their easy nature.

An old traveller in China says that in summer the little Chinese

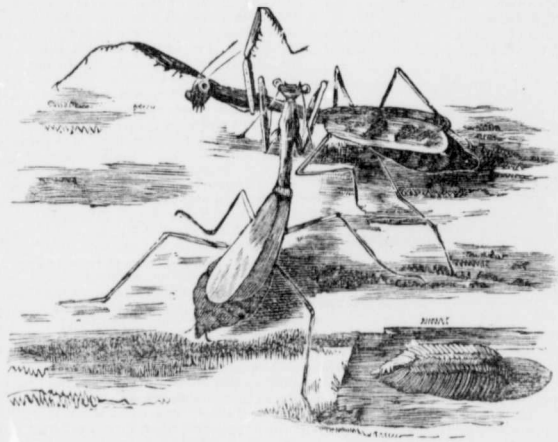
boys keep these insects in cages for the purpose of seeing them fight, which is quite as exciting to them and on the same principle as a cock-fight. I do not know whether they allow them to feast after the battle, as their natural feeling would dictate.—*Ex.*

## AN ASPHALT LAKE.

The editor of the *Missionary Record* of the United Presbyterian church, in writing of his visit to the missions in the island of Trinidad, thus describes his visit to the remarkable Pitch Lake.

On the following day we took the grand excursion of the neighborhood, and in company with several friends belonging to the congregation visited the famous Pitch Lake. We went by the coasting steamer—a sail of about two hours, and landed by small boats at La Brea, where the asphalt is melted, put into barrels, and shipped. As our readers can imagine, the industry carried on

ourselves to cross it, and found that we were walking on an asphalt pavement slightly softened on the surface by the great heat—just as the pavement of this material in our home cities is on a hot summer day. Here and there the surface was rent by fissures which were filled with clear water, and seemed to go down to great depths. Some of these we could step over, others had to be crossed by means of planks which our guides carried for the purpose. As we neared the centre, it was necessary to proceed with caution; the softness on the surface increased, and at last we came to places where the pitch oozed up in liquid form, and sent forth as from some witch's caldron, an evil odor. The source from which the pitch comes seems inexhaustible. We were told that hundreds of tons can be dug out, and in the course of a few hours the hole from which they have been dug will be filled up, and the surface



THE CAROLINA MANTIS. ITS EGG CLUSTER.

does not render the place attractive, but we had come to see a marvel of nature, and not its beauties. We gladly accepted an invitation from the manager of the works to drive to the lake, though the conveyance provided for us was an asphalt-cart, in which our party managed to dispose themselves on such chairs and stools as the office could furnish. The black and dusty incline up which we drove under the blistering heat, is bordered by a luxuriant tropical growth, amid which we could see the richest pine-apples, the volcanic heat of the soil being especially adapted for the production of this fruit. When we reached the lake, the aspect which it presented was that of a loch at home during a black frost, with patches of water here and there that have oozed up through cracks in the ice, the expanse being broken by islands covered with a scrubby vegetation. Being assured that the lake was 'bearing,' we set

as level as before. Our excursion on the lake was interesting; it could not be said to be exhilarating. The vertical rays of the sun were reflected on us from every side, the odor which filled the air produced a sickly sensation, and the glare hurt the eyes. We had read in our Kingsley that the traveller crossing the lake into the woods on the further shore passed 'in a single step out of an Inferno into Paradiso.' We accordingly resolved to eat our lunch in paradise, but when we reached the wood we searched in vain for the 'cool fragrant shade, among the pillars of a temple to which the Parthenon is mean and small,' by his description of which the great word-painter has lured us on. We found instead interminable bush through which we had to force our toilsome way, with frequent scratchings of the skin, and uncomfortable thoughts of venomous snakes, that might be preparing to spring upon us from be-

neath the leafy covert. We were fain to recross the lake, remount our cart, and get ourselves driven back to the shore, where, under the safer shelter of a wooden shanty, we partook of our provisions, and awaited the return of the steamer.

## A LITTLE BEHIND.

"Forty years ago I knew two smart boys, helpers in a grocery-store. They were brothers. They seemed to be made of steel springs, so quick, prompt and decisive were they in filling every order. They were poor boys, apprentices then. But they worked as if the concern was their own, and success depended on their energy, push and faithfulness. Now they live on one of the fashionable avenues of New York in their own large mansions, retired from the grocery business in which they made their fortunes. Holding important trusts, they are useful and respected citizens and Christians. They owe their success solely, under God, to their own promptness in performing every promise, in being always ahead rather than behind time. And there are mechanics and tradesmen with whom I once had dealings and now have deserted, because they never would fulfil an order in season, would not send a thing home when they promised, and invariably kept me waiting whatever might be my distress to be served. This vice runs in the blood sometimes, and whole families are distinguished by taking it easy, 'time enough yet,' being their motto and rule. They drop behind in the race of life. They would be run over if some one did not pick them up and help them on. Half the world has this work to do, besides doing its own. In the absence of positive crime, this habit of taking it easy causes the poverty and failure of the greater part of the human family. With the same chances, with equal health and wits, in the same field, one man succeeds and another makes a dead failure. And why? Because one took time by the forelock, was ever prompt, and therefore prosperous. The other was always a little behindhand, and by-and-by so far behind as to be counted out as of no account.—*Irenaeus.*

YOU ARE disappointed. Do you remember, if you lose heart about your work, that none of it is lost, that the good of every good deed remains, and breeds, and works on forever; and all that fails and is lost is the outside shell of the thing; which, perhaps, might have been better done, but, better or worse, has nothing to do with the real spiritual good which you have done to men's hearts, for which God will surely repay you in his own way and time.—*Charles Kingsley.*

